



Curios and Relics Tools Sickle Used by Lincoln

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

LINGGLA LIFE Referred to Music districted serving a control triumphic mich benedition no REC'D APR 14 1932 FACTORY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. FACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY Answered 932 26-29 Income Life Building 9 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING
LOUISVILLE, KY. April 12 4 1932 8rd & Main Sts. - Phone City W. 816 26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING LOUISVILLE, KY. Mr Olrther Hall: Theredent of the Limola Life Insurence Co Dear Mr Hall! Fort Wagne and out of the Louisville Times of Feb 12 1/2 shoring the Lolding Othrocham Lincoln's Roup Hook with he stred to cut Weed on his Forther's Farm, when he was a Too Me house the gennine proof of this Oche's Reup Forok! Mr Price is em oblimon over 80 je ma de, court work no more end weis help to yet all y, therefore he offers it for Sale. a Firiend of mine, who used to work for your Company some years ago and hnows you personally well suggested to me I write to you in this mouther: Saying to me: Mr Orthur Hall is a great adminer of al Limola Reics. Mr Hall: I shall appresente it very much to hear from you soone! Was Kerpecker B. Handmes

M. DOCCLICE

J. HOECHNER

FACISTY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. 26-29 Income Life Building 8rd & Main Sts. - Phone City 1814 LOUISVILLE, KY.

FACTORY PRODUCTS CO.



THOROBRED BRANDS

LOUISVILLE, KY. Office 16, 1932 Mr Luis a. Worren. Fort Worgne. Ind. May clair Fir! for your kind a prompt ourswer to my letter Vofthe 12 th 29 mus especially delighbert to learn that you are personally dequainted in Hoorly edsville & also heard of the Price Formily - I shall try to get the good old numeller Price to my office went Monday or Thuesolary where we will talk the whole mostler over and you will soon hear more from me Most Respectfully Jans: 13. Houlmer

B. HOEURIYER FACTORY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. 26-29 Income Life Building ard & Main Sts. - Phone City 81 FACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY LOUISVILLE, KY. 26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING LOUISVILLE, KY. Offil 23 of 1 932 My clear Mr Louis a Warren. Fort Wayne Duck To day I am in position to give you some more News Junoue expecting: last Theresiley Drice come to my Office & Dread to him four letter funthe 14th & it pleased him extra much that you are acquainted personally in a arround Hodgensville & Herefore have heard villreouty of the Price Furnily and elle Drice suggested that I should write to you theis: 2, John D. Price am the Son of Charles Price who lived about 4 Miles from Hoodgensville on the Louisville & Norshville Tike at the Top of Mul: 2 string Hill, La Rue Cty between New Haven and Bufferlo: no doubt you might remember the Location; you might also have heard of Thomas Trice who kept the La Rue Oty Pour House & ho was also a Morgistivite for several years. Mrice also knows well the little Mount Church with is about 3-4 Miles from the John Sice Home: there is a good Tring near the Church a a Friend of mine: Mr Fred Wint tired near the Church Danin Laisville since april 7906 but visited Hoodgensville about every 5 years. I also know Mr Bill Warren who lived over on Brush Creek & he was a Friend of my Father Charles Price! __ Dear Mr Warren Mr Price is a very good notured old moun ouroned 81 years old when a typical old Former: about 6 foot tall looks healthy but he is getting a little shorty here lately: Inotice such difference because I

O B. HUEUHNER FACTORY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. 26-29 Income Life Building and & Main Sts. - Phone City REPACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY LOUISVILLE, KY. 26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING LOUISVILLE, KY. april 23-1932 I Mum M John D Price since 1907. the Warrend: Nor Price is a very pleasant num to talk to - leut he writes a very your hours! I have Swom Officiavit about the Reaf Hook from him since 1907 in a very poor Homelroriting: you can't herolly reculit but he knows what he is bulking about ound when it comes to conversation between triends its very pleasant to listen to him He is especially delighted to talk about Hodgensville & La Rue Cty since his Boy hood Tim about Happenings in a carried Hodgensville a the little Mount Church he will be delighted to hear from you and if he thinks he might hardly be valle to answer Jun Correctly he will come to me & I should five up his answer with great pleasure. Now in reference to the Reaphook owned by the Price and me would ording that we would be glad if you give us your opinion as to the amount you feel this cure should be worth This information would be appreciated as me believe you are likely in position to give us a good idea of the Value of this item sand any suggestion in this connection would be treated as con: Eficlential since our purpose is only a mother farriving at some rilea of the possible work of this atol Revy = Hook Thomking you for this and first foront Dancy ours ver Respectfully B. Houlmer

EATTON PRODUCTS COM The April 25, 1932 Mr. B. Hoechner 26-29 Income Life Building Louisville, Kentucky My dear Mr. Hoechner: Thank you very much for your letter giving an account with your conference with Mr. Price. I regret that I cannot be of some assistance to you in making an appraisal of the Reap Hook which he has in his possession, but our policy here will not allow us to take the initiative in any of these matters. Of course, you realize that inasmuch as no other reap hook has ever been sold, which is alleged to have been in the possession of Lincoln, it would be difficult to place a price on this one. While I do not think any one questions Mr. Price's integrity or the integrity of Austin Gollaher, yet over a period of 125 years it is rather difficult to determine the identity of a single reap hook that a boy may have used. If Mr. Price will be willing to pay for the ads for his reap hook, we will attempt to find someone who would be interested in its purchase. On one of my visits to Kentucky I should like very much to talk with Mr. Price and ask if he had heard the tradition about Thomas Lincoln's infant son being buried in the Little Mount Churchyard. I would also like to know if he has any idea where the old Little Mount Church Books are new. Hoping to hear from you further, I am Respectfully yours. Director Lincoln Historical Research Foundation LAW: EB

R. HUEUHHHH FACTORY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. 26-29 Income Life Building ard & Main Sts. - Phone City REACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY 26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING LOUISVILLE, KY. 814 LOUISVILLE, KY. 29 april 1932 Mr Louis a. Warren Fort Horgne. Jud Deur Mr Warren! Thouk you very much for all the information you gove me concerning the homolling of the Sale of Olbrahome Lincoln's Reap Hook and I molerstand your position in this menter fully! Jon certainly must have a whole lot of experience in judgeing the Value's of such old Relies, but the same Time its very difficult for enybody to approvise such old items, because such Tates depend mostly on good luck to find a great Lover of such rare articles. Mr Worren you suggest that you would attempt to find some Persons who ands be interested in its Purchase: how much would Such orole extisement Cost ochout? I hope to seeth. Price about west Monday or Thursday Under separate Cover I will Sendyon and Copy of the Herald Veros of Hoodgensville Feb 25th 1926 wherein you undelle a Lincoln = Ordress & also washuntering that the La Folette Familymere Veighbors of The Lincoln Founily I should be very gland to hear > from you some orgain, very Respectfully Just: 13. Houdiner

REAP HOOK PACTORY PRODUCT COMMENT May 3, 1932 Mr. B. Hoechner Factory Products Co., Inc. 26-29 Income Life Bldg. Louisville, Kentucky My dear Mr. Hoechner: I regret that my letter gave you the impression that we advertise or even receive commission on any kind of relics. We have no facilities for advertising and have no desire to enter into any agreement to sell anything. We do have inquiries, however, about curios but people are usually not interested until they know something about what the curio costs. That's why I suggested that if Mr. Price would give some idea of what he wants for the relic, we would be more apt to find a buyer for it. Please understand that we are not interested in acquiring the relic ourselves and will list it here in our Foundation merely in the hope somebody may wish to have it. Sincerely yours. Director LAW: LH

B. HON DION . FACTORY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. 28-29 Income Life Building FACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY 8rd & Main Sts. - Phone City 814 26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING - LOUISVILLE, KY. LOUISVILLE, KY. May 8 1 1932 Mr Louis a. Warren Fort Wagne Dank Down Mr Worrers! from your letter of May 3rd that I pleased you so much in securing you a Copy of the Hedgenside Herald of fel 25th, 926 centuring a write up of a Speech you made that time about the Lindse & Lafollette Families were Neighbors one time Dam a great Collector of interesting Olippings myself farthe last 25 Jears: These to make flequent Trips to Oklehoma about that time Oklahima Territory Dudien Territory went into Hatchevel & since that time I have rogather Scrop = Books about important Happenings in That grand new State - I have also plenty important Olypings about the Life of the great Alfalfa "Bill Mourrey since he was Fresident of the Oklahoma Constitutional Convention I know him well personally! Dear Mr Worren: Mr Price gowerne his Thoto a few clays ago to please send at To you so you shall have a better I dear with whom Jun are Shooling: this Thoto was taken about 10 years ago: he looks put near the same word, The is & byears now but still has a good Memory! Mer Marren: you will hiar some more in the went ferodays Most Respectfully Juss: 13. Handmer



. . . . LUMOLINER FACTORY PRODUCTS CO. Inc. FACTORY PRODUCTS CO. 26-29 Income Life Building and & Main Sts. - Phone City Fine 814 LOUISVILLE, KY. THOROBRED BRANDS LOUISVILLE, KY. Nowy 13 1 1932 Mr Linis a. Houring Fort Wayne Just Dear dir Werren. Werherday Mr Thice come te my Office agains to talk the mothers over again I suggested the Price he wants for the Reuf Hook The same time he brought with him our olo (of his Home on Knob Creskin La Rue Comety with the Delea of Sanding Some to you thinking Thort you howing been in Hoolgensville for for Jeors, you certainly must have seen his place: Cabout 135 Cheres Chut yesterday to day Dame looking for it in views: its not lost just misplus Therefore Marren Jane Bo a little more portioner until you receive my letter discribing everything yenlike to know about

the Roup & low Wery truly : B. Herchner

NOCH LANC

FACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY

26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING

LOUISVILLE, KY. May 16. 1932

May clear Mr Louis a. Worren!

Deonfirm my letter of the 13 1 telling ym of howing mispleced a Shototaken over 40 years ago showing the Price's farm on the Nashville - Louise Dike: I found the Thoto orgain last Ibeterday ofterwoon in one of my Standing Desk Drowers. rioling a Mule & his little Boy on or white horse The little Buy is now over 40 years old: of course that time Mr Pricewas a very vigourous young "Farmer, but allthough he is now over 81 years old he carries hims efforte a eferous his likeness in the Thoto stell very much: eny boolywill say that - its a pleasure to hear Mr I rice talk about old times in La Rue County & you have a feeling that Engthing he reletes is absolutly strought forward teels: He made me drew a little Sketch in the back of the Thoto of him his Jam, Mr austin Tollagher (his thucks) & the Lincoln's were near Neighbors! (on Knob Creek.) - Deour M. Warren you having lived in Hoolgensulle several years, no boubt will recognice those places howing hiked I quest ", mony times in that Vicinity Mr True will have some more Thotos (Cepies) much of this Siture. I shall send you this Rotograph under seperate Cover hoping that you will enjoie to look at some must contially: B. Houdmers

H. HOHOHNE EACTORY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. 26-29 Income Life Building FACTORY PRODUCTS CO. Sed & Main Sts. - Phone City 1814 LOUISVILLE, KY. THOROBRED BRANDS LOUISVILLE, KY. Meory 17 # 1932 Mor Linis Ol. Warren elby vlear Lir! Ingun letter of May 3 of you Suggested that elle Trice should say what Trice he would accept for abrohom Line olis Reaf Hook I more houng talked the matter over with him Several finels he St the Price cut \$ 10000 00 Jen Thousand Lole I also soud that if he wasn't a poor mare he would not let it go at that. Very truly your 13. Handmer

36. Doechner

FACTORY PRODUCTS CO.



THOROBRED BRANDS LOUISVILLE, KY. May 18 1932 Mr Louis a. Marren Fort Mayne. In my light letter I andvised that - Shall semily your moler separate Cover the Picture -Price Form in La Rue Comity. Dear Merren, because you howe now of Mrice, it just comes in my mine the beweise the longer I correspond with a Farty the more Dolesine to get ans when how the Gentlemin los whom I am olcaling with Jama Twith Om creen and over here our 40 years; the last 15 years I was mostlyengaged in wholesale Ochimuse Dear Marren I should appreciate it very highly if you could favor me with a Thotograph of yours: if it is convenient to you! Dammost Respectfully Jour B. Houlmer

THOROBRED BRANDS
LOUISVILLE, KY. May 26 th 1932

Mr Linis a, Marren Fort Wayne: Dank

Levelle Marrier Dank me information you gove me information you gove me information of the Rocking Chair Olber

Sincoln was sented in at the Ford Theorter

When Mrice 2 D agreed on \$10000 = me listened to some

of so called big Business men mith big I deas, I myself

Suggested 4th 5000 at the Start

Now dear Mr Warren since I have heard from gree who

has great Experiment in Such amount feer days.

Whings over with Mr Price the next feer days.

When I harren Insticed in the Liniside

Courier of the 212th that you will be the main Speaker.

Fromkfurt June of the Kentucky State

Most Respectfully B. Hocelmer

Historical Jonety & Dheartity congratulate you

FACTORY PRODUCTS CO.

H. KUNCHNER

. a. Doechner FACTORY PRODUCTS CO., Inc. 26-29 Income Life Building FACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY Brd & Main Sts. - Phone 26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING LOUISVILLE, KY. LOUISVILLE, KY. Jame 2 % 20 Mr Louis a. Warren Fort Waynes Inel Dear Mr Warren. May al the I rosate gent that I shall took the mostler over with Mr John D. Trice who is the Owner of the Keep Hover & show time to day your kind letter of May 19 heall to us what the old Rocking chair brught where Mr Lincoln was - ?- E In Irice Toud that your opinion in this mother is very logical & as I have hardly any chance to live money more years (am now 81) I better for while I am living But he suggests that with your big influence the should get anyhow not less than \$\$ 120000 We shall appreinte to hear from you soon again. Just AB. Hochmer John & Rice

-

M. Warren! June 2 de 1932 Enclosed a Dijapine from to days Courier Concerning your Speech you are going to make in Frankfast Jime 7th Jours: B. Herehow.

June 9, 1932 Dict. June 8

Mr. B. Hoechner
Factory Products Company
26-29 Our Home Life Building
Louisville, Kentucky

Dear Mr. Hoechner:

It is always a distasteful task to advise one that they have been very much misinformed about the value of the relics which they may have in their possession, but I do not feel I would be fair with you if I did not say that the appraisal which you have placed upon the Reap Eook has been greatly exaggerated.

I attended an auction in Chicago last week and here are some of the prices which the very valuable curios brought. A chaff used by Abraham Lincoln and his family in the White House duly authenticated, sold for \$250. A gold came presented by Abraham Lincoln and his wife to Dr. P. D. Durley sold for \$200.

Many other souvenirs said to have come from Lincoln's mother, his wife, and other associated with him sold anywhere from \$4 to \$25.

I regret to say I feel that you cannot anticipate any price that would appear to you adequate for the Reap Hock.

I appreciate very much your interest about it, and of course we would be very happy to record it here in our Foundation, and if there are those who are in the market for such items and we learn of them, we shall be glad to put you in touch with them.

I have been glad to look over the pictures you sent and under separate cover I am pleased to enclose them.

Very sincerely yours,

B. Hocechnet

FACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY

26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING

LOUISVILLE, KY. June 22 d 1932

Dr Linis a. Marren Fort Mayne Ind Deardbr Warren!

The Centerit of your olear Letter of Jime 9th pleased me very much the Leveson why I distint answer your Booner is that that I divint have a chance to talk to Mr Trice June - I like all your arguements on such Curios very much because you are an Quethority on such mothers: having vast experience in south line Ols Som as There seemell Price, with I hope will be in the west several o ays, you shall hear from me againe much for your leaflet with your clear Thato in it Downely appreint it very highly & I would be very happy if you would placese served a half a dezen more of those pumples. Cordially yours:

B. Houchner

June 23, 1932 Mr. B. Hoechner Factory Products Company 26-29 Our Home Life Building Louisville, Kentucky My dear Mr. Hoechner: Enclosed you will please find copies of the little booklet for which you inquired, and if you care for more of them we will be happy to provide them. Very sincerely, yours, Director Lincoln Eistorical Research Foundation LAW: MB Encl. (4)

B. Doechner The second country FACTORY PRODUCTS COMPANY 26-29 OUR HOME LIFE BUILDING LOUISVILLE, KY. July 7 1 932 Dr Louis. a. Warren Fort Mayne. Jul Down Morren. Ofter receiving your estimable letter of June of the after steelying its centucts very carefully I was tolking the matter over with the Thice several blays ago! " Mr Price said: of Course it's a difficult mother to put the real Frice on such a Relie beweise gendertt know the Circumstances of the prospective buyer, therefore the Warrenne appreciate your kind ordoise to us about fiseing any amount the owner expects to get for it Now: Mr Price said this to me: you please write thus to Marrere: Mr Thice is getting older every day Lat his age er man court enget to live much longer anymore, Herefore Mr. Hocelmer you suggest to Dr Warren That Despect to get any how about \$25000 for theold abraham Linwins Reap Hook Mr Warren I shall be very Hankful to hear from you somagain and em most Respectfully

Jours B. Hochmer

radm resolvanite

July 13, 1932

Mr. B. Hoechner 26-29 Our Home Life Building Louisville, Kentucky

My dear Mr. Hoechner:

I have read your recent letter relative to the price which has been placed upon the reap hook, and will make a memorandum of the facts and attach it to the correspondence we have previously had about this interesting curio. You may feel sure if I can find someone interested in this relic that I will advise you.

Very sincerely yours,

Director Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

LAW: IB



Shackleton Piano Company

307-309 WEST BROADWAY

TELEPHONE5: JACKSON 5347-5348-5349

Louisville, Kentucky

"THE HAMMOND ORGAN"

For the Smallest Residence
or the Largest Cathedral

Members of Louisville Board of Trade National Association of Music Merchants National Association of Sheet Music Dealers

May 20, 1940.

Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Gentlemen:

Some years ago I bought what was purported to be a sickle or reap hook which was used by Abraham Lincoln and I am wondering whether you have any information on its authenticity.

I have an affidavit with it, as well as copies of two character testimonials as to the man who sold it to me.

Enclosed is an envelope for your convenience in replying.

Yours very truly,

ROBERT J. SHACKLETON

RJS/BS

Marchyon

STEINWAY & SONS

AND

OTHER FINE PIANOS

HOME OF THE "CAPEHART"

LARGEST VICTOR RECORD DEPARTMENT IN KENTUCKY

COMPLETE SHEET MUSIC DEPARTMENT

OCTAVO AND
COLLECTIONS
FOR
GLEE CLUBS
CHORUSES
CHOIRS

MUSIC FOR KINDERGARTEN ALL GRADES HIGH SCHOOL COLLEGE

FOREIGN MUSIC LIBRARY EDITIONS BAND MUSIC

MUSICAL MERCHANDISE MUSIC STANDS STAFF LINERS PITCH PIPES

We Have "Everything in Music"

Coller Kech Hoole Strackfelon Piano Compano May 22, 1940 Mr. Robert J. Shackleton Ebackleton Piano Company 307-9 W. Broadway Louisville, Kentucky My dear Mr. Shackleton: We do not seem to have on hand any information about a certain reap hock which Abraham Lincoln is said to have used. If you can give us the wording of the affidavit which may imply where it was used and at what time, we might assist you somewhat in proving its authenticity. Very truly yours, and the province of the province, we would be Director



Shackleton Piano Company

307-309 WEST BROADWAY

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Louisville, Kentucky

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Members of Louisville Board of Trade National Association of Music Merchants National Association of Sheet Music Dealers

June 13, 1940.

Mr. Louis A. Warren, C/o Lincoln National Life Foundation, Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Mr. Warren:

RJS/BS

Acknowledging your letter of May 22nd, you may be interested to know that I was in Fort Wayne and telephoned you a week ago Tuesday.

Upon arriving home I found a number of distinguished gentlemen had been to Louisville and Hodgenville on a Lincoln pilgrimage.

Enclosed is a copy of the affidavit on the reap hook which is supposed to have belonged to Abe Lincoln and a couple of substantiating statements from R. T. Durrett and J. M. Atherton, both deceased.

Your opinion on the question of the authenticity and probable value of the reap hook will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

ROBERT J. SHACKLETON

HOME OF THE "CAPEHART"

STEINWAY & SONS

AND

OTHER FINE PIANOS

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We Have "Everything in Music"

Louisville, Kentucky. September 5, 1932.

I, John D. Price of Larue County, Ky., Charles Price, my father was a native of Larue County, born and raised near the Lincoln birth place in Larue Co., Ky.

When Thomas Lincoln moved from the birth place of Abe Lincoln he moved about eight miles north on the head waters of Knob Creek. His close neighbor was Thomas Gallaher the father of Austin Gallaher and Austin and Lincoln were great boy friends and went to school together on Knob Creek.

Thomas Gallaher got the reap hook from Thomas Lincoln and when Austin came to manhood he married my father's sister, Polly Price, which made him my uncle by marriage and Uncle Austin's father died. He lived and died on his father's farm. Many years before the Civil War my father bought the reap hook from uncle Austin and after Abe Lincoln was president of the United States, Uncle Austin came to my father's house one day and said to my father, "Charles have you still got that reap hook I sold you. You know it was Tom Lincoln's reap hook and Abe has cut many a weed with it when he lived on Knob Creek, and if I had ever thought that Abe would have been president of the United States I would not have sold it".

So my father said, "Well, Austin, I will see about it".

So my father kept the hook, so I never heard them say anything more about it. I was the only son of my father and after my father's death I bought all of the farming tools and that is how I became the owner of the reap hook. In 1906 I came to Louisville to make it my home so I brought the old reap hook with me. It is a hand forged hook and shows the wear of several generations.

(Signed) John D. Price
The Owner.

State of Kentucky)S.S. County of Jefferson)

A Notary Public for the County and State aforesaid do certify that the foregoing instrument of writing was this day produced to me in my office and acknowledged and sworn to by John D. Price, party thereto, to be his act and deed.

My commission expires December 24, 1935. Witness my hand this the 17th day of May, 1933.

(Signed) J. F. Will, Jr.
N.P. J.C. Ky.

Louisville, Ky. February 7, 1908.

Dear Sir:

This will introduce to you John D. Price, a native of my old country Larue, I have known Mr. Price since boyhood. He worked for our firm for many years and has always been sober and honest.

I knew his father and Mr. Austin Gallaher, a boy friend and play mate of Mr. Lincoln. I think Mr. Price can be relied on for correct statement and his reports of the reap hook is in line so far as the parties go with the facts.

Yours truly,

(Signed) J. M. Atherton

(C O P Y)

Louisville, Ky. February 23, 1908.

To Whom It May Concern:

I knew Austin Gallaher referred to above.

He was fond in his old age of talking about President

Lincoln's boyhood. He was very trustworthy and an

interesting man. I think he was in the age of ninety,

respected by all who knew him.

Signed

R. T. Durrett.

June 21, 1940

Mr. Robert J. Shackleton Shackleton Piano Company 307-9 W. Broadway Louisville, Kentucky

My dear Mr. Shackleton:

It is to be regretted that I was in Kentucky at the same time you were in Fort Wayne. I regret that I did not have an opportunity to meet you.

It would appear that inamuch as the Gollahers and the Lincolns were higher and it is quite likely that some farm implements would be exchanged between them by barter or sale but I could not give you any idea as to what the value of the reap book might be.

We are not allowed in this Foundation to appraise articles and I think the price of it would depend entirely upon how anxious one might be to acquire it. I regret we do not assemble articles of that type here in our Museum.

Yours very truly,

LAW: BS

Director



